दूसरा मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा घास के लिए ट्रांसपोर्टेशन के जो चार्जेज हैं, बाहर से लाने के लिए उसमें 75 परसेंट का रीइम्बर्समेंट दिया जाता है, अगर इनको स्टेट के अन्दर दिया जाता है तो 50 परसेंट दिया जाता है। मान्यवर, राज्य सरकार ने सौ प्रतिशत की डिमांड केन्द्र सरकार से की है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि वह इस दिशा में क्या कदम लेने जा रहे है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Considering the importance of the question, we can have a half-an-hour discussion. That is what I was saying. You were not hearing.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: On Monday there is a discussion.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा . सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी का उत्तर तो आपने देख लिया कि क्या दे रहे है और गुजरात स्टेट के माननीय सदस्य क्या कह रहे हैं यह भी देख लिया ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

Damage caused by floods in West Bengal

*103. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss in West Bengal due to the devastating floods during the period from August to October 1987;

(b) what are the details of the losses;

(c) the total assistance asked for by the West Bengal Government from the Centre for flood relief and reconstruction;

(d) the total assistance promised by the Centre; and

(e) the amount disbursed by the Centre to the State till date?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) and (b) The value of damages to public and private property reported by the State Government is Rs. 439.93 crores, besides the loss of 156 human lives and 1391 heads of cattle. The details of the losses is as under.—

Item	(Rs. in crore)
1. Value of crops damage	244.22
2. Value of cattle lost	0.20
3. Value of Houses damaged	122.22
4. Damages of fishermen.	9.86
5. Public Health	3 75
6. Panchayat and Community Development Centre	10 26
7. Public Health Engineering Department	1.80
8. Public Works Department	23 15
9. Irrigation	16 69
10. School Building	7.03
11. Forest	0 48
TOTAL	439.93

(c) and (d) The Government of West Bengal submitted memoranda seeking Central assistance of Rs. 264.30 crores. A ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 67.72 crores has been approved. In addition, Rs. 0.06 crores for 1987-88 and 1988-89 for increasing vegetable production has also been approved.

(e) Rs. 24.415 crores has been released to the State Government during the current year as per details given below:—

	Amount released (Rs. in crores)	Date of release
1. Centre's share of Margin Money	11.875	25-8-1987
2. Ways and Means advance	10 00	6-10-1987
3. Non-Plan grant	2.54	23-10-1987
	24.415	

Illegal mining of minerals

*104. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHWAHA:
SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the continuous clandestine mica mining taking place in the mica producing States in the country causing considerable loss of revenue to the Exchequer;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any critical study of the illegal mica mining identifying the persons involved and their *modus operandi* and the estimated loss of revenue annually as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof together with the measures taken by Government to check the illegal mining of minerals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c) The main mica producing States are Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. From the discrepancy in the figures of production reported for Mica and those of Mica exports, a Committee under the chairmanship of Shri G. S. Swaminathan in its report submitted in March 1981 came to the conclusion that there was illicit mining and underreporting of Mica producion and that this situation was mainly prevalent in Bihar. The Committee noted that a legal framework and administrative structure are available to prevent such illicit mining and recommended that State Governments should effectively implement the provisions of the Bihar Mica Act, 1947 and tone up the administrative machinery.

In September, 1985, a study was taken up jointly by the Indian Bureau of Mines and Department of Mines and Geology of the Government of Bihar to look into the discrepancy between the figures of production and exports of Mica. As a result of this study also, it was concluded that the discrepancy was on account of: (i) underreporting|misreporting of production by Mica producers, (ii) illicit mining, (iii) picking of waste scrap from old dumps by a large number of villag-